

**WCCO-TV QUARTERLY ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT  
PERIOD OCTOBER 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2007**

ATTACHED ARE LISTINGS OF BROADCASTS OR BROADCAST SEGMENTS WHICH, IN THE STATION'S JUDGEMENT, REFLECT THE STATION'S MOST SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF ASCERTAINED COMMUNITY ISSUES DURING THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2007 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2007.

PROGRAM INDEX: "**WCCO 4 News**" is a regularly scheduled half-hour newscast at 5:00, 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. Duration of stories listed in this report range from 1 to 12 minutes.

**"60 MINUTES"** is a regularly scheduled one-hour CBS News magazine show. Segments run approximately 12 minutes.

**"48 HOURS INVESTIGATES"** is a regularly scheduled one-hour CBS News magazine show. Segments run approximately 12 minutes.

CONSUMER: AG Suit, CenterPoint Bills, Mortgage Fraud, Charity Toys.

**October 8, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "AG Suit"** – Minnesota's Attorney General has settled a lawsuit against Allianz Life Insurance company. The Attorney General accused the company of selling unsuitable annuities to Minnesotans over age 70. These were annuities the people couldn't access for as long as 15 years. Dozens of Minnesota seniors invested a total of \$259 million. As part of the settlement, people will get their money back and Allianz admits no wrongdoing. **October 29, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "CenterPoint Bills"** – CenterPoint Energy is taking bigger steps to ensure its customers pay up. Right now, the company has a record number of people who are behind on their heating bills. In an effort to curb that, CenterPoint says it will start reporting payment information to major credit agencies. The move could damage the credit scores of people who still owe money. **November 4, 2007, "WCCO 4 News" "Mortgage Fraud"** - A Twin Cities home builder, his wife and son-in-law have pleaded guilty to their parts in a mortgage fraud scheme that bilked lenders out of an estimated \$50 million. Michael Parish and Christopher Troup pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mortgage fraud and money laundering. Ardith Parish pleaded to a minor role by serving as the company's bookkeeper. Five others have pleaded guilty in the case since September. **November 22, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Charity Toys"** – With all of the recent toy recalls, a lot of

shoppers are being extra cautious about what they pick up. However, those recalls are really putting a strain on some local charities. At the Salvation Army warehouse in Roseville, volunteers have already spent hundreds of hours sorting through donated toys. They check a list of all the current Consumer Product Safety Commission recalls, to see if any of the donated items have been recalled. Without volunteer help, the Salvation Army couldn't afford to pay people to sort through the 20,000 toys it expects to come through its warehouse.

CRIME AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Jewelry Heist, Taser Cam, Caribou Crime,

**October 14, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Jewelry Heist"** – Two men walked into a Burnsville Kohl's store, smashed a jewelry display case and made off with more than \$80,000 in jewelry. Earlier that day, police say the men had robbed a woman's purse in South St. Paul. Using a new Dakota County records system, police were able to match the license plate number of the vehicle used in both crimes which led them to a St. Paul address where the robbers were found with the stolen jewelry. **November 1, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Taser Cam"** – The Minneapolis Police Department has become one of the latest law enforcement agencies to use Tasers equipped with cameras. Once an officer turns on his Taser, the camera starts recording audio and video of the encounter. Deputy Police Chief, Scott Gerlicher believes the Taser cameras will increase community confidence in how the department handles encounters with suspects. It also affords better accountability for the officers and for the public to know they can go back and look at the video to see the circumstances under which a Taser was deployed. **November 20, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Caribou Crime"** – Minneapolis Police are warning coffee shops about a ring of professional thieves who are breaking into safes. A crime alert issued by the department describes the thieves as "very skilled" and "very professional burglars who get in fast and out fast". Caribou Coffee locations have been targeted several times and are adding cameras and alarms to provide additional safety and security.

GOVERNMENT: Bridge Money, Reality Check: Bachmann Ad, Pitt Report,

**October 1, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Bridge Money"** – The 35W Bridge collapse is making an historic impact on the state treasury. For the first time, Minnesota's Department of Transportation estimates the total cost of the bridge tragedy at \$393 million. That price tag includes debris removal, bridge demolition, traffic re-routing and actually re-building the bridge. The federal government is paying for most of it, but the money isn't coming quickly enough. State officials say if they don't get special permission to spend \$195 million now, they intend to get it by cutting local road and bridge projects around the state. Democrats are skeptical of such a large request for money and say the governor should call a special legislative session if he wants a check that big. **October 17, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Reality Check: Bachmann Ad"** – A television ad, produced by a liberal coalition of anti-war groups and labor unions, is sharply critical of Minnesota Republican Congresswoman Michele Bachmann's vote against expanding the children's health insurance programs. The ad accuses President Bush and Bachmann of wanting to spend \$1/2 trillion on the war in Iraq rather than a fraction of that here at home to keep children healthy. Bachmann argues she wasn't even

in Congress when most of the war money was approved, but since taking office, she's voted so spend at least \$100 billion for the war and is supporting the President's request for \$141 bill more. Bachmann is asking television stations to pull the ad. **December 10, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Pitt Report"** – MNDOT's emergency manager lost her job, in part, after failing to return from an east coast trip when the I-35W Bridge collapsed. Now, a harshly worded report says Sonia Pitt's supervisors at the highest levels of MNDOT were unusually lax about her work habits. The report isolates three top level MNDOT managers who did not monitor Sonia Pitt's day-to-day activities, did not know when she traveled, did not see her cell phone bills, were unaware she had a state credit card and did not notice when she was missing in action for 10 days after the bridge fell down.

DIVERSITY: Hate Crime Reported At St. Thomas Dorm, Police Lawsuit, Mpls. Civil Rights.

**October 30, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Hate Crime Reported At St. Thomas Dorm"** - St. Paul Police and University of St. Thomas Public Safety officers are investigating a report of a hate crime on the school's campus. Malaika Smith, a sophomore, discovered a two-word hate message written in permanent marker on her dorm room door. She shares the room with two other African-American students. They also discovered a note in their room that was filled with hateful, racist language. The campus administration sent an email alert to all students and staff and held an emergency meeting with top officials and the students. The dorm is a secure building and female residents are required to show identification to enter. However, residents are allowed to bring guests inside. Safety officials are reviewing records of who was in the building during the incidents.

**December 3, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Police Lawsuit"** – Five supervising police officers, all higher-ranking veterans, have filed a lawsuit against the City of Minneapolis and Police Chief Tim Dolan over what they claim is discrimination against African-American officers. The 36-page suit outlines allegations by the five minority officers of systematic discrimination in the police department by creating a hostile work environment based on race and color. Their allegations cover a period of 20 years. The officers say they all have been passed over for promotions and appointments in favor of white candidates.

**December 31, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Mpls. Civil Rights"** – The Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights is an office many count on to investigate and resolve civil rights complaints. However, most of the investigators have resigned and the city is now scrambling to fill those positions. Concerns over the department's director arose after five minority police officers say he ignored their accusations of unfair discriminatory treatment in the police department. The resignations have caused more upheavals in the department and city leaders are wondering if the incidents are somehow connected. The mayor says he remains confident in the director of the department.

ENVIRONMENT: MOA Recycle, Steger.

**October 16, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "MOA Recycle"** – Materials Processing Corp., a local company, sponsored a recycling event at the Mall of America in Bloomington for

people wanting to get rid of electronic equipment. They had no idea how popular it would be. So many people showed up, the event had to be shut down early. Thousands of cars jammed the streets around the mall and snarled traffic for hours. More than 70 truckloads of recyclables were collected and none of it will go to waste. Each piece of every item dropped off will get transformed into something else. It's illegal in Minnesota to dump television and computer monitors. The PCA says a single monitor can contain as much as eight pounds of lead. **October 29, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Steger"** – Arctic explorer, Will Steger has invited Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty to join him in the Canadian Arctic next May to see the effects of global warming firsthand. Other members of the expedition include explorers from Norway, Great Britain and the United States. They will try to document retreating glaciers and other apparent signs of global warming.

HEALTH: Hospital Superbug, Chantix,

**October 16, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Hospital Superbug"** – MRSA is a super version of a staph infection and can spread fast. A recent government study indicates more than 90,000 Americans get this strain of staph each year and more than 18,000 die. The Minnesota Health Department told us staph infections are up considerably since the late 90's. Antibiotics can't kill the germ, so the best way to prevent this superbug from spreading is by hand washing. **December 27, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Chantix"** – An important warning has been issued about a popular smoking cessation drug. Chantix has helped many people kick the habit, but the FDA is now investigating about 100 smokers who say the drug made them suicidal. The agency says the benefits of quitting smoking far out-weigh any possible risks, but warns that anyone taking the drug should be monitored closely.

WOMEN: Pregnant Fish, Taxol Ineffective For Some Cancer Patients,

**October 4, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Pregnant Fish"** – The National Healthy Mothers/Health Babies Coalition says pregnant woman should be eating at least 12 ounces of fatty fish a week. They say the Omega 3 fatty acids in the fish are vital to the development of a baby's brain and nervous system. This FDA is disputing the coalition's study, citing concerns about mercury levels in the fish. Doctors are saying the best thing for pregnant women is to get their Omega 3 from other sources such as fish oil supplements or flaxseed. **The October 11, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Taxol Ineffective For Some Cancer Patients"** – Taxol was a standard treatment for many women diagnosed with breast cancer. A new study suggests that the drug is not effective for several types of the disease and further suggests that some women might be able to skip Taxol treatments altogether. The drug causes unpleasant side effects such as numbness in the hands and feet, bone pain and a weakened immune system.

YOUTH AND FAMILY: School Lunches, New MN School Designed For Those With Autism, Fine Dining Christmas For Struggling Families,

**November 26, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "School Lunches"** – Kids really will eat what you put in front of them. A study from the University of Minnesota finds school lunch sales

don't go down when healthy meals replace fries and pizza. The study looked at sales at more than 300 Minnesota public schools over five years. It found no drop in demand for lunches, and many of the nutritious foods cost less, helping offset the costs for changes in the kitchen. **December 10, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "New MN School Designed For**

**Those With Autism"**- A group of parents of autistic children is starting a charter school specifically for children with the disorder. Lionsgate Academy is slated to open in 2008 and will be the only public school in Minnesota designed to help autistic children learn to build meaningful lives. Autism is a complex disability that affects social interaction, the ability to communicate ideas and feelings and the ability to establish relationships.

**December 25, 2007, WCCO 4 News, "Fine Dining Christmas For Struggling Families"** – The Minneapolis Miracle event is sponsored by two downtown restaurants. Rock Bottom Brewery opened its doors to 800 people who are struggling financially, and in some cases, living in temporary shelters. Sponsors wanted to make sure the guests were treated not just to a meal, but a fine dining experience, complete with coat checks at the door, and servers for each table. Volunteers were on hand to distribute toys to the children and a professional photographer took family portraits at each table. Every child was also given a gift card for new shoes, and new fleece jackets were given to both children and parents.